

THE JAMAICAN BAR ASSOCIATION

JUST RIGHTS

1. Continuing Legal Education Seminar – November 15-17, 2013 at the Hilton Rose Hall Hotel.

The Bar is commemorating its 40th Anniversary this year. This will be specially recognized at the Assize Service on Sunday September 22, 2013, at 10:00 a.m. at the East Queen Street Baptist Church. Please make every effort to attend and kindly dress as if you are appearing in Open Court at either the Supreme Court or the Court of Appeal.

2. NEW LEGISLATION

The Bar has received the following Bills from the House of Parliament (Gordon House):

- Act No. 2/13 - “An Act to Amend the Retiring Allowances (Legislative Service) Act.”
- Act No. 3/13 - “An Act to Amend the Obeah Act to abolish whipping as a penalty for certain criminal offences; and for connected matters.”
- Act No. 4/13 - “An Act to Amend the Larceny Act to abolish whipping as a penalty for certain criminal offences; and for connected matters.”
- Act No. 5/13 - “An Act to Repeal all legislation making provision for flogging and whipping in judicial sentencing; to amend provisions of enactments relating to and referring to flogging and whipping as penalties for certain criminal offences; and for connected matters.”
- Act No. 6/13 - “An Act to Validate acts done in good faith during the period commencing 1st January, 1999 and ending on the date of coming into operation of this Act in relation to the investment, realization, withdrawal and utilization of a portion of such sums and other income from the assets of the Capital Development Fund established by Bauxite (Production Levy) Act for the purposes of satisfying the financial obligations of the Government; to indemnify the Government of Jamaica and persons from liability in relation thereto; and for connected matters.”
- Act No. 7/13 - “An Act to Amend the National Housing Trust Act.”

- Act No. 8/13 - “An Act to Make new provision for offences relating to lottery scams, advance fee fraud and other fraudulent transactions; and for connected matters.”
- Act No. 9/13 - “An Act to Amend the Tax Collection Act by making provisions therein for the Minister to write-off arrears of taxes, as well as the penalties thereon, determined to be uncollectible, and for connected purposes.”
- Act No. 10/13 - “An Act to Establish a body, to be known as Tax Administration Jamaica, with sufficient autonomy in management to facilitate the efficient and effective administration and collection domestic tax; and for connected matters.”
- Act No. 11/13 - “An Act to Validate and Confirm as lawful the purported continuation in office of the members of the Council for Professions Supplementary to Medicine and all official acts done by them, in good faith and inadvertent as to their not having been in compliance with the provisions of the Professions Supplementary to Medicine Act, in purported exercise of the functions conferred upon them, during the period commencing on the 16th day of October, 2008 and ending on the 31st day May, 2011; to indemnify the members of the Council and persons who are liable to be proceeded against on the ground that the acts were unauthorized, illegal or improper, from liability in relation thereto; and for connected matters.”
- Act No. 12/13 - “An Act to Apply a sum out of the Consolidated Fund to the service of the year ending on the 31st day of March, 2014 and to appropriate the sums granted in this Session of Parliament.”
- Act No. 13/13 - “An Act to Make provision under several enactments for harmonizing the treatment of charitable organizations for the purpose of taxation; and for connected matters.”
- Act No. 14/13 - “An Act to Validate and confirm the imposition, variation and renewal of tax under the General Consumption Tax Act by several provisional orders pursuant to section 3 of the Provisional Collection of Tax Act, the collection of such tax, in good faith and inadvertent that the collection was invalid, improper or unlawful, during the period commencing on the 1st day of April, 2003 and ending on the day of coming into operation of this Act; to indemnify the Government and all persons acting on behalf of the Government from liability in relation thereto; and for connected matters.”
- Act No. 15/13 - “An Act to Amend the Financial Investigations Division Act.”

- Act No. 16/13 - “An Act to Amend the Revenue Administration Act.”

3. **BENEFITS TO BAR MEMBERS**

The following are some of the benefits available to paid-up members of the Bar:

- (a) access to a “**suite of financial benefits**” due to the Bar’s agreement with the Bank of Nova Scotia Jamaica Limited. This will include members having potential access to billions of dollars at discounted interest rates or more favourable terms in relation to, inter alia, business start-up capital or loans; mortgages and motor vehicle facilities or loans;
- (b) discounted costs to our Continuing Legal Education (“CLE”) seminars this is particularly important now with the advent of mandatory Continuing Professional Development via the amendment to the Legal Profession Act;
- (c) discounted fees for membership at Spartan Health Club/gym;
- (d) a free copy of our new, improved JAMBAR Journal newsletter to be published every quarter;
- (e) access to the legal material (“*mini library*”) at the Bar’s office;
- (f) discounted ticket cost for Bar events, such as “**Bar Beat**”; and
- (g) discounted costs on stationery or other purchases at INC Limited, Liguanea Mall, St. Andrew (next to the post office).

4. **OTHER SEMINARS**

The Public Administration International (PAI) is having two UK-based study programmes in London; “Access to Civil Justice: efficiency, affordability and fairness” from October 7- 11, 2013 and Transforming Criminal Justice: From joined-up justice to multi-agency approaches” November 25 – 29, 2013
Apply on-line: www.public-admin.co.uk

5. **REPORTS/PUBLICATIONS**

The Jambar Journal Volume 26 No. 2 is available for sale at the Bar’s office.

Lexis Nexis books are available at the Bar’s office for sale at discounted prices.

Regional Judicial and Legal Service Commission Annual Report 2012

Please contact Miss Tapper/Wilmot for further information.

6. **JAMBAR CONTACT**: The Association's offices are located at 78 Harbour Street, Kingston. The telephone numbers are 967-3394; 967-9034; 967-3783 (fax); Email: iba@flowja.com.
Website: www.jambar.org.

7. **PRESIDENT'S CONTACT INFORMATION**: Email may also be sent to the president at president@jambar.org or iangwilkinson@wilkinsonlawja.com .

Ian Wilkinson Q. C.
President
The Jamaican Bar Association
September 10, 2013